

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vicki Schmidt at 9:30 a.m. on January 22, 2009, in Room 446-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reed Holwegner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Carolyn Long, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rebecca Bossemeyer, Geary County Clerk
Whitney Damron, Kansas Gas Service
Carol Williams, Director, Governmental Ethics Commission

Others attending:

See attached list.

Introduction of Proposed Legislation

Rebecca Bossemeyer, Geary County Clerk, requested introduction of a bill that would change the filing deadline from June 10 to May 10. As written, there are only 45 days to mail ballots to federal service individuals prior to an election, not allowing any additional time should there be objections to the filings. Senator Reitz moved, Senator Faust-Goudeau seconded to introduce the bill. Motion carried.

Ms. Bossemeyer also requested a change in the language currently in 2008 SB 562, Sections 4, 5, and 6. Senator Schmidt asked that a bill be drafted to reinstate the original language contained in the bill.

Whitney Damron appeared on behalf of Kansas Gas Service and introduced Mick Urban, Manager of Governmental Affairs for Kansas Gas Service. Mr. Damron requested introduction of a bill to amend K.S.A. 15809 relating to cities of the third class and the sale of electric light, waterworks or gas systems (Attachment 1). Senator Reitz moved, Senator Brungardt seconded. Motion carried.

The chair thanked both Ms. Bossemeyer and Mr. Damron for appearing before the committee.

Presentation of Speaker

The Chair introduced Carol Williams, Director, Governmental Ethics Commission. After a brief outline of legislation passed in 2008 and its impact on the Commission, Ms. Williams stated that the Commission would like legislation introduced that would add additional terminology to Regulation 19-20-4 to include web sites and e-mail. Senator Reitz moved, Senator Apple seconded. Motion carried.

She would also like to make electronic filing mandatory for the six (6) state-wide positions. Senator Reitz moved and Senator Kultala seconded. Motion carried.

There being no further discussion, the Chair thanked Ms. Williams for her presentation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2009.